[25th January 1933

Appendix IV.

[Vide item X on page 332 supra.]

BILL No. 2 OF 1932.

A Bill further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, for a certain purpose.

To

The Honourable the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
of the GOVERNOR of MADRAS.

We, the undersigned Members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, for a certain purpose (Bill No. 2 of 1932), have the honour to submit the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English on the 16th February 1932.

3. We met on the 12th May 1932 at Stonehouse Hill, the Nilgiris, for the consideration of the Bill.

4. The Bill provides for the punishment of a false alarm of fire knowingly given. We consider that the mischief it seeks to penalize is serious enough to justify legislation. The present measure is drafted on the same lines as section 5 of the Bombay Police Amendment Act II of 1917. We have made some verbal amendments so as to make it clear that it is only when a person gives a false alarm of fire with knowledge of its falsehood that he will be liable under this enactment. We are not in favour of awarding imprisonment for an offence under this Act and have accordingly omitted that punishment.

5. We consider that the Bill does not require republication.

* SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.
N. SIVA RAJ.
GANALA RAMAMURTI.
C. BASU DEV.
D. V. NARASIMHASWAMI.
D. KRISHNAMURTI.
* BASHEER AHMED SAYEED.
DANIEL THOMAS.
F. E. JAMES (*Chairman*).
MAHOMED USMAN.
T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR.
V. M. RAMASWAMI.
G. SREERAMULU.

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* Subject to a note.

NOTE.

In our opinion, no case has been made out for this Bill. It proceeds on the statement of the Commissioner of Police that there have been recently several cases of false alarm. No material is placed before the Committee to substantiate this statement. Evidently, the Commissioner of Police wanted this amendment because a similar provision exists in the Bombay City Police Act, although there is no warrant for it in this city at present. We are therefore of opinion that this Bill is unnecessary. However, the deletion of imprisonment as an alternative punishment to fine is welcome.

SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.
BASHEER AHMED SAYEED.

12*th May* 1932.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
வாய்மையே வெல்லும்
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

[25th January 1933

ANNEXURE.

BILL No. 2 OF 1932.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, for a certain purpose.

Preamble. WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, for the purpose hereinafter appearing; Madras Act III of 1888.

AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be called the Madras City Police (Amendment) Act, 1932.

Insertion of new section 62-A in Madras Act III of 1888. 2. After section 62 of the Madras City Police Act, 1888, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

Penalty for false alarm of fire. "62-A. Whoever gives or causes to be given to any fire brigade in the City of Madras or to any officer or fireman thereof, whether by means of a street fire-alarm, statement, message or otherwise, any alarm of fire which he knows to be false, shall be liable on conviction to fine which may extend to one hundred rupees."

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS